

DaleMead_CommentSW

From: Dale Mead [dfmead1@attbi.com]

Sent: Friday, January 25, 2002 6:03 PM

Subject: Board of Directors, California Consumer Power and Conservation Financing Authority

CPCFA Board:

I understand you are about to make a decision by Feb. 15 regarding your Integrated Energy Resources Plan. I can't make it to your public hearing in Oakland next Monday (I work), so I'm using this venue to make a plea to you. Please make it part of your record of the hearing.

Last year hundreds of the world's leading environmental scientist from more than 100 countries updated the governments and citizens about the latest consensus on global warming through the IPCC Third Report. Its findings: Global warming has already started; future warming will have profound impact on life on our planet, from drought and coastal flooding to slowing the global ocean currents (!); the degree of damage depends on what humans do to reduce greenhouse gas emissions including CO2. This is truly alarming. And what is world leader United States doing about it? Using all its political clout to ACCELERATE use of fossil fuels here and elsewhere. This is shockingly irresponsible - make that borderline insane. The politicians are nuts from oil industry contributions.

Hopefully, your group is new enough that it hasn't yet been taken over by petroleum interests that finance intensive lobbying for this preposterous stance. If so, please show the country California understands the gravity of the problem and has the courage to do something about it. Throw as much of your resources as possible to renewable energy sources, such as solar, and to local generation that reduces reliance on the regional power grids. They require triple the power we need just to deliver it, subject us to the risk of regional blackouts, and hold us hostage to remote generators happy to rip off power users. Make a campaign of solar roofing tiles and other local generation technologies.

Some environmental groups are demanding that you allot \$2 billion of the \$5 billion in your budget to renewals. That's not enough. You would send an impressive message if you invest at least \$2.5 billion - half - to renewables. (It's very quotable in the press, you know? - besides actually acting aggressively to solve the problem.)

I look to your Feb. 15 decision and continued leadership with concern and hope.

Dale F. Mead
non-lobbyist